

REMARKS**Objections to the Specification**

In the Office Action dated October 5, 2005, the Examiner pointed out and required correction of a number of informalities in the specification. All of these have been corrected in the Amendments to the Specification above.

Claim Rejections*1. Claims 1, 7-9, and 22-26*

Claims 1, 7-9, and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") and 6,539,237 ("Sayers '237").

Claim 1 has been amended herein to recite that "the private-wireless network is a wireless local area network," and that "the private-wireless network and the public-wireless network use different communications formats for communications with the mobile subscriber terminal." Claim 1 has also been amended to recite the step of "registering the mobile subscriber terminal on the wireless local area network."

The process of registering the mobile subscriber terminal on the wireless local area network is described in the specification at, for example, pages 24-27 of the specification. Information on a mobile subscriber terminal for use in such a method is given on page 16 of the specification.

Neither Lamb et al. nor Sayers '237, nor any other references of record, describe a method in which a mobile subscriber terminal roams into a private-wireless network,

wherein the private-wireless network is a wireless local area network, and wherein the private-wireless network and the public-wireless network use different communications formats. Furthermore, the references of record do not disclose any method in which the mobile subscriber terminal registers on the wireless local area network.

As recognized in the Office Action, "Lamb et al. do not specifically disclose that the user roams from a public-wireless network to a private-wireless network." (Office Action at 5.) Similarly, Lamb et al. does not disclose a system in which the private-wireless network is a wireless local area network, or in which the private-wireless network and the public-wireless network use different communications formats for communicating with the mobile subscriber terminal. In contrast, Lamb et al. discloses a system in which base stations (not mobile stations) in different networks communicate among themselves with different messaging formats. (Col. 2.)

Sayers '237 does not disclose those features, either. In particular, Sayers '237 does not disclose a system in which the private and public wireless networks use different communications formats. To the contrary, Sayers '237 discloses a system in which "[t]he public and private wireless networks operate with the same public wireless protocol, such as GSM." (Abstract.) This allows users of the Sayers system to make use of "normal wireless handsets . . . without the need for any modifications." (Abstract.)

The method as recited in claim 1 provides a technique through which mobile stations may roam into a private wireless local area network, and services may be provided to the mobile stations over the wireless local area network itself. In contrast, Sayers '237 describes a system that requires the use of "private base stations (P-BTS)." (Col. 7.) These private base stations are required to compensate for the fact that only

“normal wireless handsets” are used in Sayers ‘237, and that these handsets communicate using a “public wireless protocol, such as GSM,” rather than a wireless local area network protocol, as recited in claim 1.

Thus, neither Lamb et al. nor Sayers ‘237 discloses or suggests a method as recited in claim 1 as amended. None of the remaining prior art of record discloses or suggests a method as recited in claim 1, and claim 1 is believed to be patentable over the prior art.

2. Claims 2, 3 and 27-32

Claims 2, 3 and 27-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 (“Lamb et al.”) and 6,539,237 (“Sayers ‘237”) and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0061766 (“Sato et al.”).

Claims 2, 3, and 27-32 depend from and further limit claim 1. As a result, these claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

3. Claims 4-6

Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 (“Lamb et al.”) and 6,539,237 (“Sayers ‘237”) and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application Nos. 2002/0061766 (“Sato et al.”) and 2001/00468660 (“Lee”).

Claims 4-6 depend from and further limit claim 1. As a result, these claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

4. Claims 10-11 and 15-20

Claims 10-11 and 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") 6,539,237 ("Sayers '237"), and 6,687,243 ("Sayers '243").

Claims 10-11 and 15-20 depend from and further limit claim 1. As a result, these claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

5. Claims 12-14 and 21

Claims 12-14 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") 6,539,237 ("Sayers '237"), and 6,687,243 ("Sayers '243") and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0061766 ("Sato et al.").

Claims 12-14 and 21 depend from and further limit claim 1. As a result, these claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

6. Claim 33

Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") and 6,539,237 ("Sayers

'237") and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application Nos. 2002/0061766 ("Sato et al.") and 2004/0203890 ("Karaoguz et al.').

The applicant submits that there is no motivation in the prior art to combine Karaoguz et al. with Lamb et al., Sayers '237, and/or Sato et al. Lamb et al., Sayers '237, and Sato et al. provide methods of enabling communications between mobile switching centers (Lamb et al., Col. 2) or base stations (Sayers '237, Col. 7; Sato et al.) of different networks. The disclosure of Karaoguz et al., on the other hand, relates to identifying to a user the location of wireless hotspots for connecting with a local area network. (Abstract.) In the systems of Lamb et al., Sayers '237, and/or Sato et al., users do not connect to a wireless hotspot. As a result, one of ordinary skill would have no motivation to consult the disclosure of Karaoguz et al. for a method of locating a wireless hotspot.

Because there is no motivation in the art to combine the disclosure of Karaoguz et al. with the other cited references, claim 33 is believed to be patentable over the cited art. Moreover, Claim 33 depends from and further limits claim 1. As a result, this claim is further believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

7. Claims 34 and 35

Claims 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") and 6,539,237 ("Sayers '237") and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0242208 ("Teicher").

Claims 34 and 35 depend from and further limit claim 1. As a result, these claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

8. Claim 36

Claim 36 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of the combination of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,697,620 ("Lamb et al.") and 6,539,237 ("Sayers '237") and further in view of published U.S. Patent Application Nos. 2004/0242208 ("Teicher") and 2003/0100303 ("Armbruster et al.").

Claim 36 depends from and further limits claim 1. As a result, this claim is believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

9. Claim 37

Claim 37 has been newly added to the application. Like claim 1, claim 37 recites a method in which a subscriber to a public wireless network registers on a private wireless local area network, where the public and private networks use different communications formats. Accordingly, this claim is believed to be patentable for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1.

Conclusion

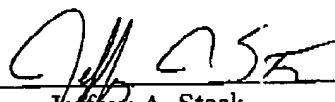
Now pending in this application are claims 1-37. Claims 1 and 37 are independent. For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and thus the Applicant respectfully requests notice to that effect.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of this application, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned at (312) 913-2115.

Respectfully submitted,

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